

N° 10,067



A.D. 1897

*Date of Application, 22nd Apr., 1897*

*Complete Specification Left, 22nd Jan., 1898—Accepted, 9th Apr., 1898*

**PROVISIONAL SPECIFICATION.**

**Improvements in Clasp Knives.**

I, RICHARD HOPPE, of 151, Aldersgate Street, London, E.C., Merchant, do hereby declare the nature of this invention to be as follows;—

This invention relates to improvements in clasp knives, and has for purpose to provide a new or improved device for opening the blade or blades from the handle or haft by displacing a small knob forming the outward extremity of a simple attachment to the blade pivot, instead of inserting the finger nail into a recess provided for the purpose at or near the back of the blade as has hitherto been the more common method of opening the knife, and frequently resulted in serious damage done to the finger nail, and similar inconveniencies and dangers. My new or improved device essentially consists of a thin but sufficiently strong metal plate of suitable conformation pivoted on the blade pin, and having at one end a small knob or the like protruding from the handle or haft while the other end is provided with a flange, so arranged as to engage under the shoulder of the blade within the groove or furrow in the handle or haft, intended to hold the blade or blades when folded down the aforesaid attachment is therefore adapted to operate as lever, as, when the protruding knob is pressed backwards the other arm as the lever will with its flange press against the foot portion of the blade from within the groove or furrow of the handle or haft raising the blade sufficiently from its folded down position to admit of the said blade being easily and safely folded back completely against the back spring by the fingers without requiring the use of the finger nails. The shoulder of the blade may be so fashioned or cut away as to admit of the back spring, forcing the blade into a partly opened position, when the lever device is being operated in the described manner, and holding the blade in that position, until it is further folded back by the fingers. A further advantage of my present invention, consists in the possibility of the back of the blade being adapted to be flush with the sides of the handle or haft because no projection containing recesses or grooves for inserting the finger nails are necessary.

Dated this 22nd day of April 1897.

HUGHES, ELI & HUGHES,  
For the Applicant.

**COMPLETE SPECIFICATION.**

**Improvements in Clasp Knives.**

I, RICHARD HOPPE, of 151, Aldersgate Street, London, E.C., Merchant, do hereby declare the nature of this invention and in what manner the same is to be performed  
[Price 8d.]

BIRMINGHAM  
FREE LIBRARIES

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

*Hoppe's Improvements in Clasp Knives.*

formed, to be particularly described and ascertained in and by the following statement:—

This invention relates to improvements in pocket-knives and has for its object to so construct such knives whereby they can be opened more readily and speedily than heretofore and without risk of damaging the operator's finger-nails. 5

And in order that this my said invention may be the more readily understood and carried into practical effect, reference is hereby made to the accompanying sheet of illustrative drawings, wherein:—

Fig. 1 is a diagrammatical view of a knife-blade with my invention applied thereto, illustrating the action of same. 10

Fig. 2 a side elevation of a knife constructed according to my invention, the front plate of such knife being removed to more clearly show the invention.

Fig. 3 is a perspective view of the opening lever, while

Fig. 4 shews in side elevation, a view of the knife complete.

Referring to the drawings wherein like letters of reference indicate corresponding parts throughout the figures, *a* is a curved lever which is pivoted upon the same pin *b* as the knife blade *c*. 15

The said lever *a* is flanged at one end *a*<sup>1</sup> which flange passes under the butt of the blade, the other end *a*<sup>2</sup> of such lever being in the form of a button or knob, which projects beyond the end of the knife. 20

In operation the button or knob *a*<sup>2</sup> is pressed downwards, (when it is desired to open the blade) thereby causing the lever *a* to turn upon its pivot *b* and raise the blade *c* by means of the flange *a*<sup>1</sup>.

The knife is closed in the usual manner and is provided with the ordinary well known form of spring *d*, and stop or rest *e*. The invention is applicable to all kinds of pocket knives having one or more blades. 25

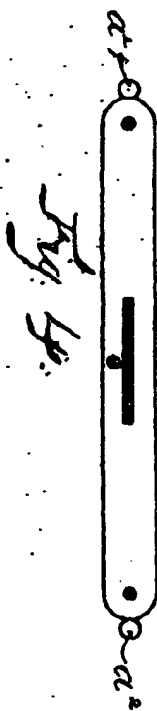
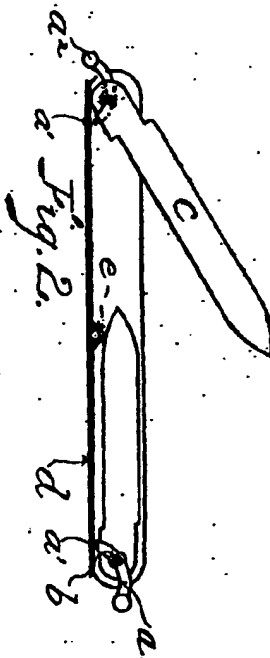
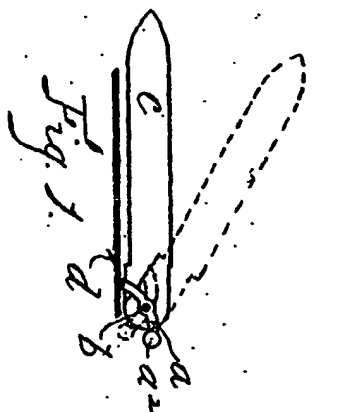
Having now particularly described and ascertained the nature of my said invention and in what manner the same is to be performed, I declare that what I claim is:—

In pocket knives, the means for opening the blades of same consisting in a curved lever *a* pivoted upon the pin *b* and having one end *a*<sup>1</sup> flanged to take under the knife blade the other end *a*<sup>2</sup> having a knob projecting through the end of the knife, substantially as and for the purpose hereinbefore described and as shewn upon the drawings. 30

Dated this 22nd day of January, 1898.

RICHARD HOPPE. 35

[This Drawing is a reproduction of the Original on a reduced scale]



BIRMINGHAM  
FREE LIBRARIES

Malby & Sons, Photo-Litho.